

FOLLOW THE RIVER TO BROWNVILLE

Nebraska's first town for art and history



WELCOME TO HISTORIC BROWNVILLE



Nestled in a valley alongside the Missouri River lies Historic Brownville. This town offers rich artistic experiences, historic museums, unique shopping, picturesque walking and biking trails, unforgettable events, and so much more.

We welcome you to share our 1854 village. Come and discover why visitors return again and again to this charming town by the river.

Martin Hayes

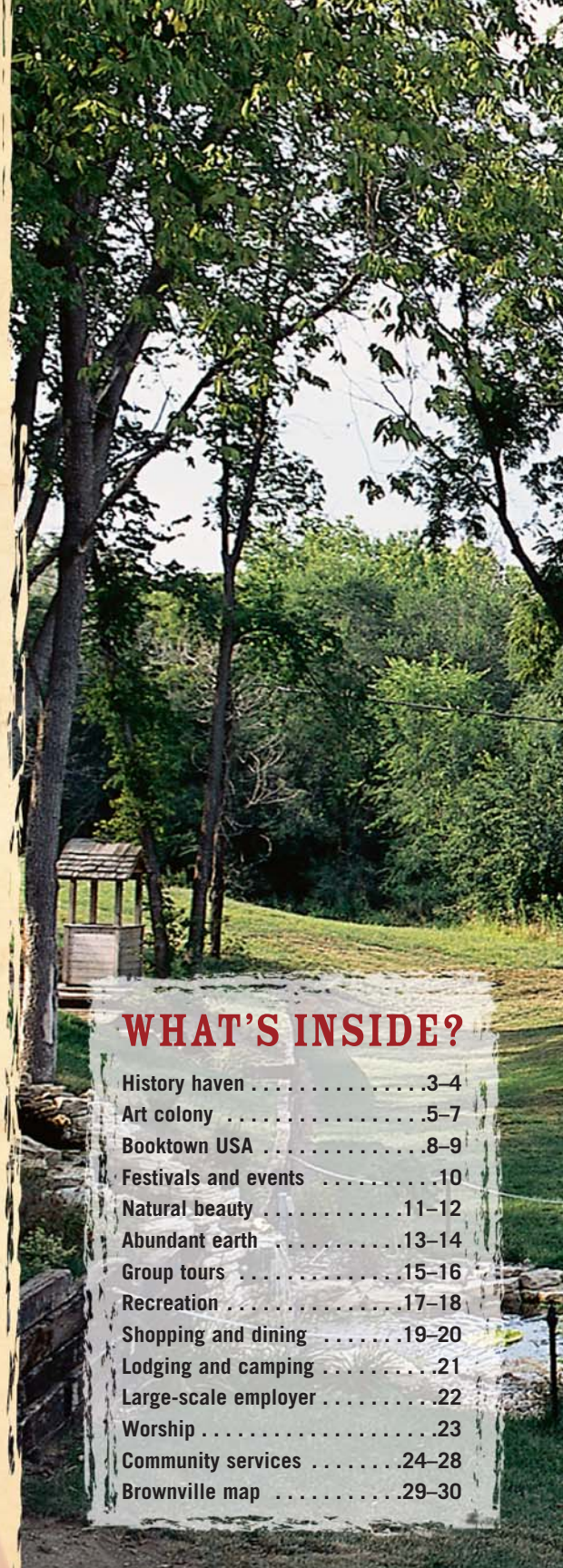
Chairman, Town Board

Brownville Visitor Center

Located in the west portion of The Lyceum on Main Street, the Visitor Center is open daily April through December from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The center is staffed by volunteers who offer tours, provide information, sell state park permits, and answer general questions about Brownville. 402-825-3968

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THERE'S A TOWN BY THE RIVER...

Where the arts, state history, unparalleled natural beauty, and exciting outdoor recreation converge.
That place is Brownville, Nebraska.



Visit us at www.brownville-ne.com.

Cover photos and inside cover photos courtesy of
Nebraska DED, J. Tallmon, and N. Tallmon.

HISTORY HAVEN

Brownville: then and now

When the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 opened the territory up for settlement, Tennessee native Richard Brown packed up his family and headed west. What started as a small settlement of scattered cabins quickly became a vital port town for riverboats on the Missouri River. In 1970, Brownville's significance was recognized with enrollment on the National Register of Historic Places.

Today, Brownville remains a vibrant, artistically rich community of about 150 citizens. Its fascinating history is documented throughout its many historical attractions.

Historical attractions

Brownville Depot and Railroad History Museum

U.S. Highway 136 and Water Street
Preserved 1875 railroad depot and caboose document the history of the railroad in the region. Grand opening set for spring 2009.
402-825-6001

Brownville Bridge

Just east of downtown
Completed in 1939, this bridge spans the Missouri River and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Captain Bailey House Museum

4th and Main Streets
Take a tour through Brownville's rich history. Open mid-May–mid-October and by appointment, Friday–Sunday, 1–5 p.m.
402-825-6001

Dr. Spurgin's Dental Office

222 Main Street
View many historical dental tools in this old-time dentist's office. Open April–October, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. for self-guided tours.
402-825-6001

Lewis and Clark Campsite

South of town
On July 15, 1804, the Lewis and Clark expedition camped here during the exploration of the Missouri River. View the State Historical Marker in the riverside State Recreation Area.

***Meriwether Lewis* Dredge and Missouri River History Museum**

Just south of Brownville Bridge
Step into the past on this restored sidewheeler dredge. Usually open Memorial Day–Labor Day, daily, 1–5 p.m.
www.meriwetherlewisfoundation.org
402-825-3341 or 402-825-4131

Nemaha Valley Lodge #4

2nd and Main Streets
Founded in 1858, the Masons have been using this building as a meeting hall since 1894. The state's oldest blue lodge and still an active fraternity, Brownville's masons are the only ones in the state who still schedule meetings based on the full moon.

Walnut Grove Cemetery

North of downtown on 7th Street
Established in 1864, this historic five-acre cemetery is the final resting place to many of Brownville's early pioneers, including Governor Robert W. Furnas.
402-825-4651

Wheel Museum

219 Main Street
Located in what was once the town's Ford dealership, the Wheel Museum displays vintage wagons, buggies, a Civil War cannon, and commercial fishing equipment. Open daily April–October, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. for self-guided tours. 402-825-6001

Historical houses

For a more familiar look into Brownville's history, these restored homes are fascinating stops.

Brown/Carson Period House

3rd and Main Streets
Included on the National Register of Historic Places, this home was built by Brownville's founder, Richard Brown, and later became home to John L. Carson, one of Nebraska's first bankers. The home is now run by the Brownville Historical Society. Open mid-May–mid-October and by appointment, Friday–Sunday, 1–5 p.m. 402-825-6001

Furnas House

Built in 1868, this was home to early Nebraska Governor Robert W. Furnas.
Call 402-274-4146 for hours.

☞ This page is sponsored by the Brownville Historical Society, proudly documenting the heritage of Brownville since 1956. ☞
Membership categories: Friend \$10, Patron \$30, Contributor \$65, Steamboat Captain \$125. Send your membership to:
Brownville Historical Society Membership, P.O. Box 143, Brownville, NE 68321.

Didier Log Cabin

Built by pioneer John B. Didier in 1854, this unique home has been donated to the Brownville Historical Society and will open fall 2008. Call 402-825-6001 for hours.

Private Homes

Many of Brownville's oldest homes, including the elegant Muir House, have been restored by private citizens. These homes can be seen on driving or walking tours of the village or on a scheduled tour of homes.

MASONIC LODGE

Nemaha Valley Lodge #4
is the state's oldest blue lodge.
This historic lodge has been
used as an active meeting
hall since 1894.



2nd and Main Streets



Captain Bailey House Museum

Preserve America honors

Brownville was recently honored when First Lady Laura Bush, honorary chair of the Preserve America initiative, designated the town as a Preserve America Community.

"Preserve America Communities demonstrate that they are committed to preserving America's heritage while ensuring a future filled with opportunities for learning and enjoyment," Mrs. Bush said. "I commend you for your commitment to preserving an important part of our nation's historic past for visitors, neighbors, and, most importantly, for children."

"This is an outstanding honor for Brownville," said Governor Dave Heineman. "Like so many communities across our state, Brownville has a rich history of both cultural and natural heritage."

Brownville is one of only two Nebraska communities to receive this honor.



Explore and Enjoy Our Heritage

ART COLONY

In the past decades, Brownville has evolved from a bustling trade port to a bona fide haven for fine arts and culture. Many of the town's early settlers brought their cultural and intellectual pursuits with them when they traveled here from the east.

Today, art museums, independent galleries, world-class musical performances, and outstanding theatre productions combine to make Brownville the state's premier destination for lovers of the arts.

Art museums/galleries

The Antiquarium/Bill Farmer Gallery

309 Water Street

Scheduled to open spring 2008, this bookstore and gallery will feature the works of famous Nebraska sculptor and painter Bill Farmer. 402-917-1300

Chaney Gallery

125 Main Street

Marvel at the contemporary paintings of Mary Ann Chaney. Open Tuesday–Sunday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. www.chaneygallery.com 402-825-3963

Flatwater Folk Art Museum

6th and Main Streets

Scheduled to open in 2009 and housed in the restored 1884 American Gothic Howe Church building, the museum's collection of American Folk Art creations and vernacular expressions reflects the human spirit and passions of common folk and celebrates universal traditions, ceremonies, and rituals. 402-825-4371

Gallery 119

119 Main Street

Enjoy contemporary art by Harry Andersen. Open April–December, Tuesday–Sunday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. or by appointment. 402-825-3471

Gallery of American Folk Art

See Barbara Bond's textiles prepared using traditional 19th-century methods. Call for an appointment. 402-825-6651

Handmade Modern

121 Main Street

Shop for one-of-a-kind, handcrafted jewelry while you peruse the work of featured artists. Open April–December, Thursday–Sunday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. www.sarabucy.com 402-825-3990

The Lyceum Bookstore and Café

228 Main Street

Enjoy the rotating art exhibits at this used bookstore and café. Open daily except Monday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m. www.brownvillelyceum.com 402-825-4231

Palmerton Gallery

212 Main Street

Enjoy the beauty of exquisite wildlife paintings and bronze sculptures by Thomas Palmerton. Open by appointment. 402-825-6731

Schoolhouse Gallery & Nature Center

5th and Main Streets

Located in the heart of the Furnas Arboretum, this unique gallery provides a venue for regional artists and for nature programs and activities. Open by appointment. 402-274-4146

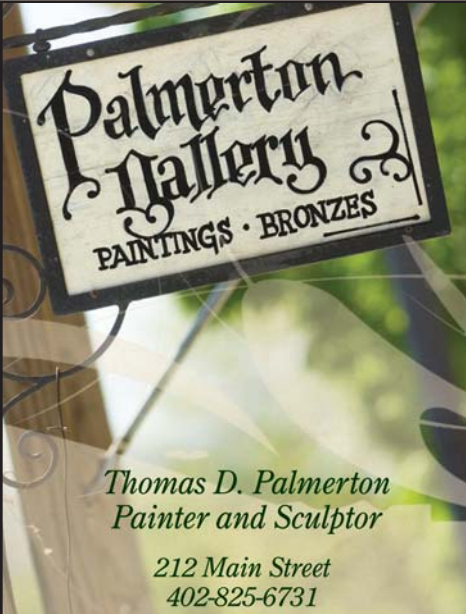
Performing arts

Brownville Concert Series

The Brownville Concert Hall, housed in a charming country church, presents some of the area's most astonishing musical performances in its concert series. From up-and-coming vocalists to world-renowned classical performance ensembles, the Brownville Concert Series will surely satisfy your passion for music. www.BrownvilleConcertSeries.com 402-825-3331

Brownville Village Theatre

After more than 40 seasons of entertaining locals and tourists alike, the Brownville Village Theatre is one of the area's cultural staples. As Nebraska's oldest repertory theatre, this unique and historic venue offers performances each summer from mid-June through mid-August. www.BrownvilleVillageTheatre.org 402-825-4121

A wooden sign with a black border and decorative scrollwork. The text on the sign reads "Palmerton Gallery" in a large, stylized font, with "PAINTINGS · BRONZES" in a smaller font below it. The sign is set against a background of green foliage.

Thomas D. Palmerton
Painter and Sculptor

212 Main Street
402-825-6731



Gallery 119

Telephone: 402-825-3471
Email: gallery119@windstream.net

A boutique art gallery that features the sculpture, paintings and jewelry of Brownville artist: Harry Waldemar Andersen.

Commissions are entertained for your home, out-of-doors and office settings.

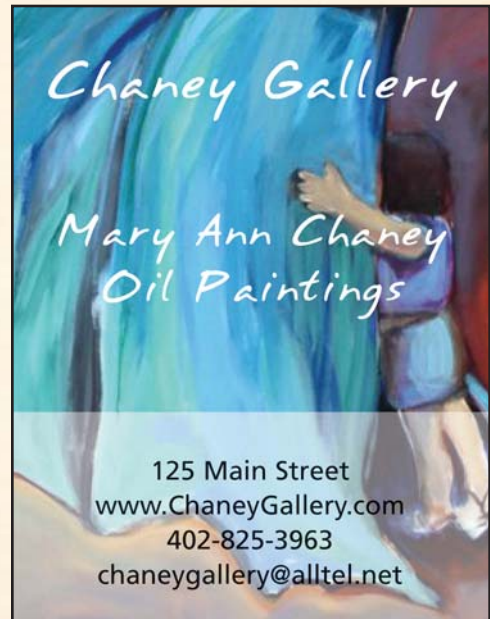
The gallery is open April through December between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday.

Off-hour appointments are available. Just call to reserve time at your convenience.

119 Main Street, Brownville, Nebraska 68321



Brownville Village Theatre

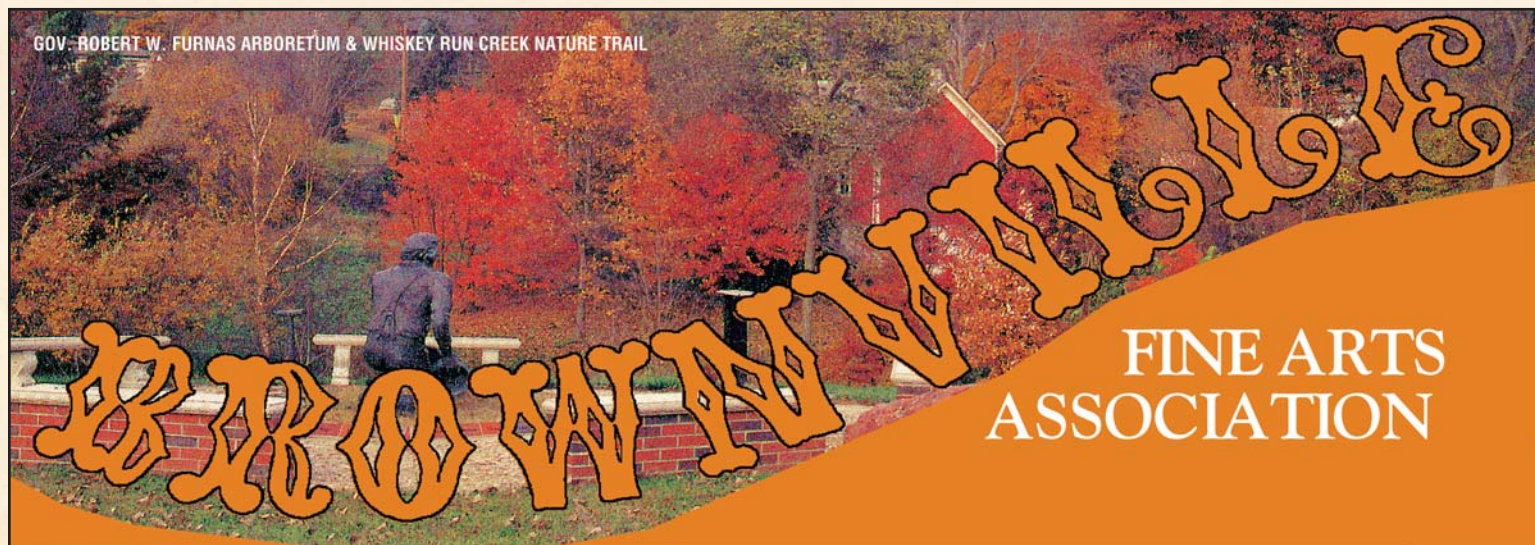
An advertisement for Chaney Gallery featuring a painting of a person in a blue dress. The text on the advertisement includes the gallery name, the artist's name, and contact information.

Chaney Gallery

Mary Ann Chaney
Oil Paintings

125 Main Street
www.ChaneyGallery.com
402-825-3963
chaneygallery@alltel.net

ART COLONY



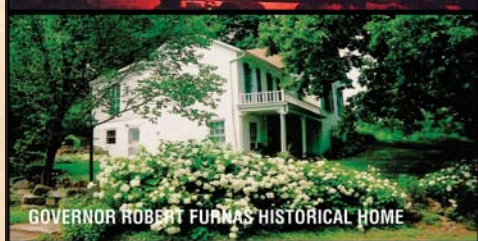
BROWNVILLE CONCERT HALL



INSIDE WITH THE BROWNVILLE CONCERT SERIES



GOVERNOR ROBERT FURNAS HISTORICAL HOME



Brownville Fine Arts Association

MISSION STATEMENT

"The Brownville Fine Arts Association strives to promote the visual and performing arts and pledges to weave them into Brownville's historically and culturally rich setting. We also recognize the gratifying beauty in nature and the outdoors. We endeavor to maintain a place for those who wish to develop the creative process, expand aesthetic appreciation, and derive new meaning and understanding from the arts and nature."

As a non-profit member organization, the Brownville Fine Arts Association serves as a vital volunteer resource in support of cultural, educational, recreational events and activities in historic Brownville. In this endeavor, it operates, maintains, sponsors and supports:

- **BROWNVILLE CONCERT SERIES**

Ten world-class musical performances from classical, jazz to cabaret are presented in the Brownville Concert Hall. For complete concert details visit their website: www.brownvilleconcertseries.com or call: 402/825-3331.

- **FURNAS ARBORETUM & WHISKEY RUN CREEK NATURE TRAIL**

Educational eco-tourism and birding activities, symposiums and garden tours. (The Furnas Arboretum is an affiliate Site of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum)



- **GOVERNOR ROBERT W. FURNAS HISTORIC HOME**

Tours, including special holiday displays, are available for this 1868 Italianate and Gothic Revival home.

- **SCHOOLHOUSE ART GALLERY AND NATURE CENTER**

Special exhibitions focus on significant visual artists of the region and are dovetailed with lectures, workshops and artist receptions.

Brownville Fine Arts Association (BFAA) Membership

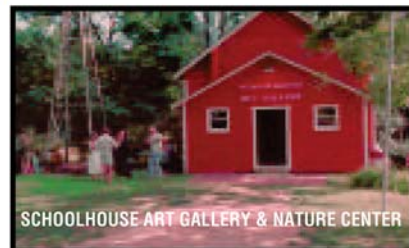
Your personal membership and financial support are truly welcome.

Membership Categories:

FRIEND \$10; PATRON \$30; CONTRIBUTOR \$65; SPONSOR \$125 PER YR.

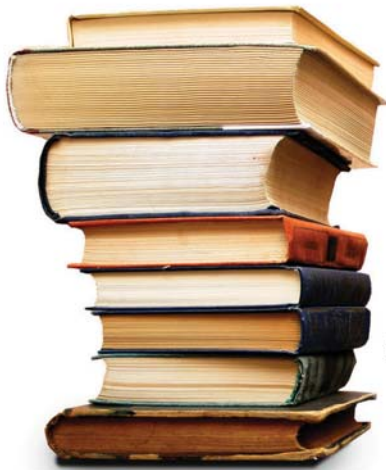
Send your membership to:

BFAA Membership, P.O. Box 143, Brownville, NE 68321



SCHOOLHOUSE ART GALLERY & NATURE CENTER

The Antiquarium



Opening in Brownville – Spring 2008

After nearly 40 years in Omaha, the Antiquarium is moving. Come browse the impressive collection of rare and used books while you admire the artwork of Nebraska artist *Bill Farmer*.

402-917-1300

309 Water Street — Brownville, Nebraska



The Lyceum Bookstore & Café



Have lunch or dinner with us during your trip to Brownville.

- Ever-changing menu of tasty comfort classics
- Thousands of used books
- Rotating art exhibits
- Unique 1800s building

Open 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Tuesday–Sunday • www.BrownvilleLyceum.com • 402-825-4321

BOOKTOWN USA

In 2004, Brownville became part of the Booktown movement when it was named one of only three official Booktowns in the United States. The movement was started by British bookstore owner Richard Booth of Hay-on-Wye, Wales. As the world's largest second-hand book dealer, Booth wanted to encourage the recycling of used books through reasonable pricing.

A true bibliophile's paradise, Brownville is now home to four outstanding bookstores.

Bookstores

A Novel Idea Bookstore – Chapter Two
117 Main Street

The second incarnation of a successful used bookstore in the state's capital, Chapter Two is a cozy haven where bibliophiles will lose themselves while finding treasures. Open April–December, Thursday–Sunday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. www.anovelaideabookstore.com 402-825-3974

The Antiquarium/Bill Farmer Gallery
309 Water Street

Scheduled to open spring 2008, this tremendously popular rare and used bookstore is moving from its home in Omaha's Old Market, where it's been for nearly 40 years. As well as books, the works of famous Nebraska sculptor and painter Bill Farmer will be featured. 402-917-1300

The Lyceum Bookstore & Café

228 Main Street

The village's largest used bookstore, The Lyceum is a perfect place to pick a great read and enjoy it in one of the cozy reading rooms. If you get hungry, you can enjoy some tasty comfort food in the café. Open daily except Monday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

www.brownvillelyceum.com 402-825-4321

Village Bookstore

218 Main Street

The perfect place to find your next must-read! The Village Bookstore offers a variety of genres as well as unique crafts, including handcrafted lace and greeting cards featuring historic Brownville homes. Open seasonally, Thursday–Sunday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. 402-825-4141



**Browse, Relax
& Find Treasures!**

***A Novel Idea Bookstore,
Chapter Two***

Open: Thurs–Sun, 11 am – 4 pm, Apr–Dec
Proprietor: Cinnamon Dokken

117 Main Street • Brownville, NE

www.anovelaideabookstore.com

402-825-3974

Village Bookstore

*Find your next favorite book as
well as unique crafts, including
handcrafted lace and greeting cards.*



Open seasonally,
Thursday–Sunday, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
402-825-4141 • 218 Main Street



Left: Village Bookstore

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

There's always something going on in Brownville...whether it's one of the unique annual festivals that draw visitors from all over the state or a picturesque wedding set among our idyllic scenery. No matter what the time of year, Brownville is always a fascinating destination for adults and children. Some of the town's more interesting events are described here.

Events

Wine, Writers, and Song Festival – Last full weekend in April

Meet with old friends and ones you haven't met yet at The Lyceum for a celebration of literature and music. Enjoy some of the delectable whites and reds from Brownville's own Whiskey Run Creek Vineyard & Winery.

**Spring and Fall Flea Markets –
Memorial Day Weekend (Sat–Mon)/Last full weekend in September (Sat–Sun), 8 a.m.–5 p.m.**
Thousands of bargain hunters descend upon Brownville to take advantage of great buys on truly unique items. Bring the whole family to be part of the fun!

Brownville Fine Arts Events – Spring and Fall
Each spring and fall, the Brownville Fine Arts Association sponsors several events. Call 402-274-4146 for dates.

Freedom Celebration – July 4
Come celebrate Independence Day in Brownville with the Grand Parade, runs (5K, 10K, and half-marathon) and walks along the Steamboat Trace Hike/Bike Trail, contests, Civil War cannon firing, concerts by the river, theatre performances, riverboat rides, and of course, fireworks down by the river.

River Rats Reunion – August
Founded in 1983, this group is interested in

Missouri River history. There are more than 200 River Rats. Many are the family and friends of those who worked on the *Meriwether Lewis* Dredge when it was in operation. Join the group for fun, fellowship, and discussion of Missouri River history. Call 402-242-2761 for more information.

**Old Time Autumn and Quilt Show –
Second weekend in October**
Aside from seeing plenty of unique handcrafted quilts, you'll enjoy a Civil War reenactment, living history displays, old-time music, trolley rides, craft vendors, and plenty of food. Call 402-825-4651 for more information.

**Christmas in Brownville –
First weekend in December**
Celebrate the season in Victorian Brownville with music, holiday food, shopping in the village boutiques, and special entertainment. Call 402-274-4146 for more information.



River Rats Reunion

Come join the Missouri River Rats Reunion every August in Brownville. Held by a group of more than 200 people, the River Rats Reunion celebrates Missouri River history.

To join the River Rats, please contact Mary Beth Kernes, the group's president at:

**boacres@alltel.net, 402-242-2761
Route 1, Box 230, Julian, NE 68378-2761**

NATURAL BEAUTY

Tucked along the bank of the Missouri River, Brownville is set among thousands of trees that thrive in the rich soil of the area's rolling hills. Naturally, it's a perfect stop for nature lovers of all stripes.

Natural attractions

Governor Robert W. Furnas Arboretum Downtown Brownville

In 1991, Brownville was selected as one of 29 Nebraska communities to receive funding to create an arboretum. The town has responded by building one of the state's finest.

The Furnas Arboretum showcases a collection of woody and herbaceous plants. The grounds strike a balance between ornamental garden and naturally occurring spaces. The result is a bold and complex landscape that will please the eye of any nature lover.

The Missouri River

Whether you're just walking along the banks or cruising in the *Spirit of Brownville* riverboat, the river is a wonderful spot for viewing wildlife and just enjoying the spectacular scenery it provides.

Nature Walks

Enjoy a stroll along the famous Steamboat Trace Hike/Bike Trail along the river. For a more challenging walk, take the trail nearly 22 miles to just south of Nebraska City. Or walk through the Whiskey Run Creek Trail starting at the river and winding to Brownville's winery. It's a soul-soothing way to take in the quiet and unspoiled beauty the town offers.

Wildlife

Bird-watchers will enjoy the view from the flyway, where birds as small as finches and as grand as eagles are regularly seen. The area is also home to wild turkeys, ducks, geese, pheasants, and white-tailed deer. For hunting and fishing information, please turn to page 17.



N. Tallmon

FUN FACT

The Furnas Arboretum is named after Robert W. Furnas, one of Brownville's early citizens, who went on to become Governor of Nebraska in 1873.



N. Tallmon



N. Tallmon

Above left: Governor Robert W. Furnas Arboretum. Above right: Autumn in Brownville. Above: Whiskey Run Creek Trail.

THE SPIRIT OF BROWNVILLE

Cruise the river in
old-fashioned style aboard the
Spirit of Brownville riverboat!

Charter cruises available **April–October.**

For more information, visit www.SpiritOfBrownville.com, call 402-825-6441
or contact **Captain J. Randel Smith** at PO Box 96, Brownville, NE 68321.

Missouri River History Museum

The Captain Meriwether Lewis

Visit this historic steam-powered, side-wheel vessel, now permanently docked
in Brownville after a lifetime of work on the Missouri River.

Displays show the development of the river valley from glacier days through the present.

Call 402-825-3341 or 402-825-4131 for more information.

SUNSET
HILLS
cedar furniture



Don Hoffmeyer
Brownville, NE
402-825-4651

ABUNDANT EARTH

The Missouri River has been much more to Brownville than a transportation channel and source of new residents. Because of the unique quality of the loess hills soil surrounding the river, agriculture in this area has thrived. Now, the rich soil is responsible for some of the most fascinating attractions in the area.

Agricultural attractions

Brownville Mills

116 Main Street

Housed in the old Lone Tree Saloon building on the east edge of Main Street, Brownville Mills is proud to be Nebraska's oldest health food store in Nebraska's oldest town. Stop in to see the unique space and for organic stone-ground flour and more. Open Monday–Saturday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday, 1–5 p.m. www.brownvillēmills-ne.com 402-825-4131

Kennedy Orchard & Vineyard

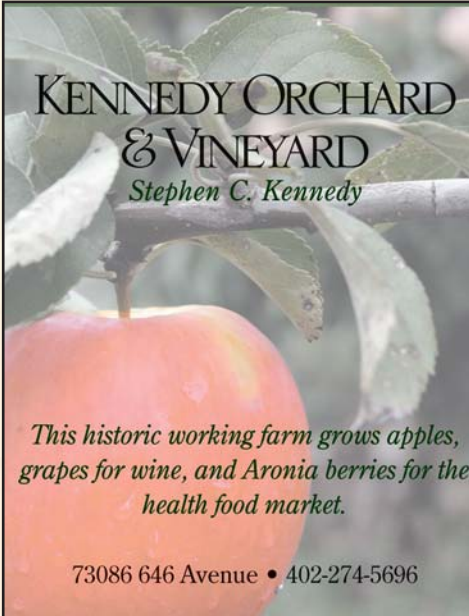
73086 646 Avenue

Currently owned by Stephen C. Kennedy, who is the fifth generation in his family to work this farm, the Kennedy Orchard has expanded to include grapes for wine and Aronia berries for the health food market. The farm was originally occupied by Stephen W. Kennedy, who came to Brownville in 1856 and became active in the Underground Railroad. His only surviving son, George Lincoln Kennedy, took over the family farm where he and his son George Cassius began the orchard business. George Cassius then worked with his son, Clay, to raise hybrid seed corn as founding members of NC+ Hybrids. Clay Kennedy was the first president of the NC+ Seed Company and currently lives in his grandfather's two-story farmhouse. 402-274-5696

Whiskey Run Creek Vineyard & Winery

702 Main Street

Inside the magnificently restored 100-year-old barn, you'll discover a wide selection of highly acclaimed wines. Stop by to tour the state-of-the-art production facilities, the historic caves, the lovely waterfall, and the fully stocked gift shop. And, of course, don't forget to grab a seat on the picturesque patio, taste a few varieties, and watch Brownville settle into dusk. Open Wednesday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday, 1–5 p.m. www.whiskeyruncreek.com 402-825-4601



**KENNEDY ORCHARD
& VINEYARD**
Stephen C. Kennedy

*This historic working farm grows apples,
grapes for wine, and Aronia berries for the
health food market.*

73086 646 Avenue • 402-274-5696

FUN FACT

Brownville was home to the Nebraska State Fair in 1870 and 1871.



BROWNVILLE MILLS

*Nebraska's oldest health food store
in Nebraska's oldest town.
Specializing in organic stone-ground flours.*


www.BrownvilleMills-NE.com
402-825-4131

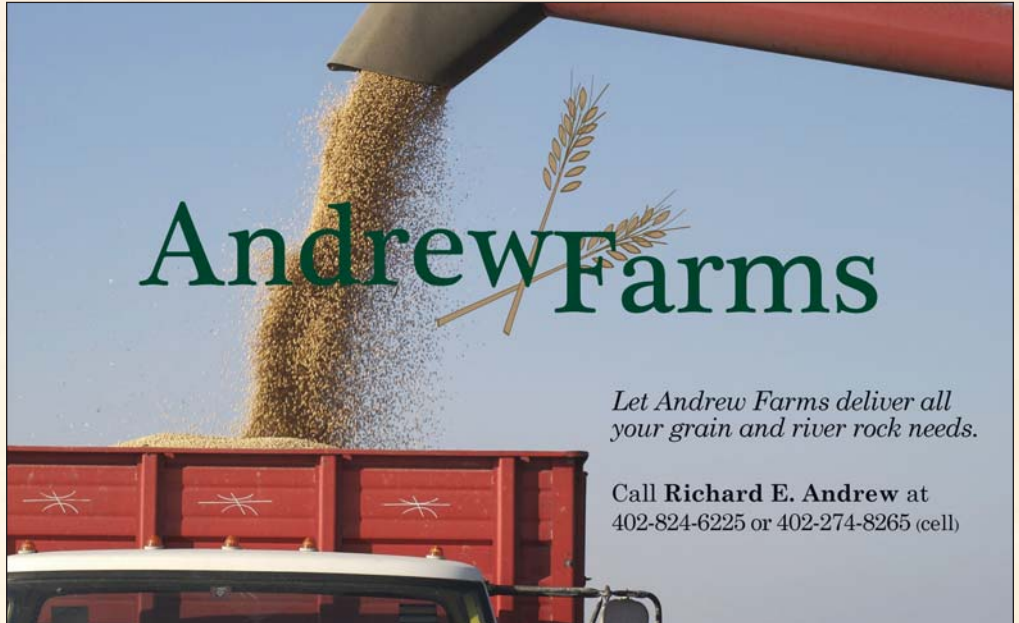


For all your real estate needs see the team at
The American Dream Real Estate Company.



| | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| Andrea Mellage Sales Associate 402-274-8557 | Mark Rippe Associate Broker 402-274-8150 | Carla Mason Broker 402-274-1817 |
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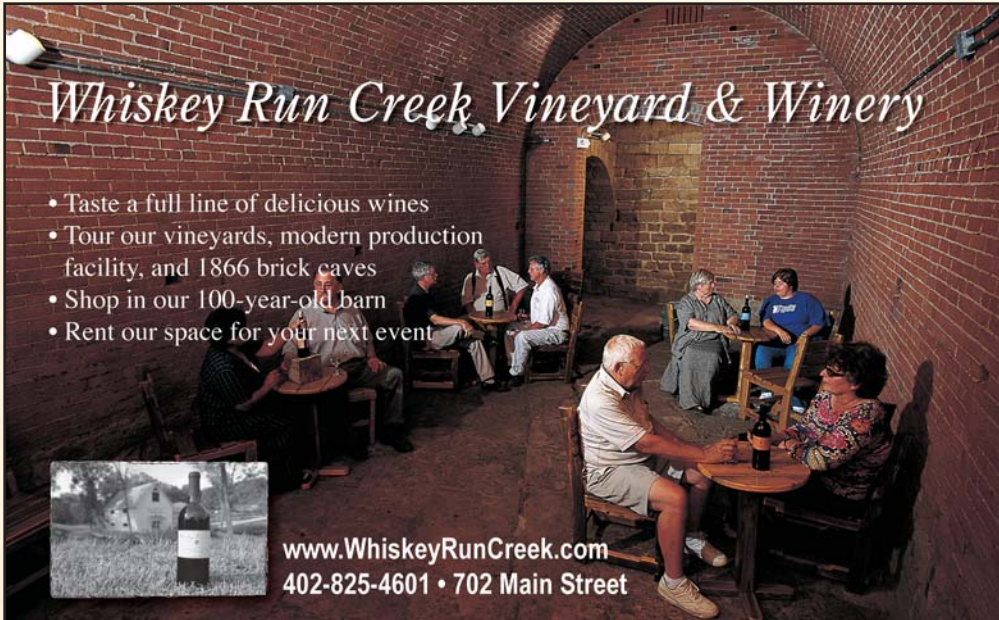
 820 Central Ave., Auburn, NE 68305
402-274-4410 or
www.AmericanDreamRealEstateCompany.com



Andrew Farms


Let Andrew Farms deliver all your grain and river rock needs.

Call **Richard E. Andrew** at
402-824-6225 or 402-274-8265 (cell)




Whiskey Run Creek Vineyard & Winery

- Taste a full line of delicious wines
- Tour our vineyards, modern production facility, and 1866 brick caves
- Shop in our 100-year-old barn
- Rent our space for your next event



www.WhiskeyRunCreek.com
402-825-4601 • 702 Main Street



PRAIRIE SAGE PUBLISHING

Your Project—Your Way

Print & Web Design: Books, Web Sites, Newsletters, Catalogs, Ads, Editable Adobe Acrobat Forms & PDFs, Banners, Invitations, Post Cards, Photography and more...

Nora Tallmon
phone: 402.825.3992
website: www.PrairieSagePublishing.com
email: nora.tallmon@gmail.com
address: PO Box 55, Brownville, NE 68321

GROUP TOURS

Brownville is the perfect stop for group tours. One phone call to 402-825-4651 does it all. Choose from one of the tour packages below, or ask us to tailor a package to fit your needs.

Tour packages

Step Back in Time Tour – \$59.95 per person*

Available June–August

Experience the historical significance that draws visitors of all stripes to Brownville.

9–9:45 a.m.: Arrive in Brownville. Enjoy coffee and freshly baked muffins at The Lyceum.

9:45–11:30 a.m.: Take a guided tour of historic Brownville, including the Captain Bailey House Museum and *Meriwether Lewis* Dredge and Missouri River History Museum.

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.: Stop for a tasty lunch at The Lyceum.

12:30–2 p.m.: Free time! Peruse the unique local art galleries, bookstores, antique shops, and craft vendors. Or tour the Brown/Carson Period House or Furnas Arboretum.

2–4 p.m.: Take in a performance at the Brownville Village Theatre.

4:30–5:30 p.m.: Savor the fruit of the vine at a wine tasting at Whiskey Run Creek Vineyard & Winery.

5:30–7 p.m.: Dine and enjoy live music aboard the *Spirit of Brownville* riverboat.



N. Tallman

Spring Splendor/Autumn Glory Tours – \$43.95 per person*

Available April–June/August–October

Take advantage of the beautiful change in seasons by taking your group on one of these tours.

9:30–11:30 a.m.: Take a guided tour of historic Brownville, including the *Meriwether Lewis* Dredge and Missouri River History Museum.

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.: Stop for a tasty lunch at The Lyceum.

12:30–3 p.m.: Free time! Peruse the unique local art galleries, bookstores, antique shops, and craft vendors. Or tour the Brown/Carson Period House or Furnas Arboretum.

3–5 p.m.: Savor the fruit of the vine at a wine tasting at Whiskey Run Creek Vineyard & Winery.

5:30–7 p.m.: Dine and enjoy live music aboard the *Spirit of Brownville* riverboat.



N. Tallman

Concert & Riverboat Dinner Cruise – \$45 per person*

Available May–October

2 p.m. or 7:30 p.m.: Enjoy a world-class performance at the Brownville Concert Hall.

4–5:30 p.m.: Free time! Peruse the unique local art galleries, bookstores, antique shops, and craft vendors. Or tour the Brown/Carson Period House or Furnas Arboretum.

5:30–7 p.m.: Dine and enjoy live music aboard the *Spirit of Brownville* riverboat.



Theatre & Riverboat Dinner Cruise – \$35 per person*

Available June–August

2–4 p.m.: Take in a performance at the Brownville Village Theatre.

4–5:30 p.m.: Free time! Peruse the unique local art galleries, bookstores, antique shops, and craft vendors. Or tour the Brown/Carson Period House or Furnas Arboretum.

5:30–7 p.m.: Dine and enjoy live music aboard the *Spirit of Brownville* riverboat.

Details

Tours are limited to groups of 40 or more. Fee is waived for bus driver and tour guide. Theatre performance included if seating is available.

**Prices subject to change.*



J. Tallmon



N. Tallmon



J. Tallmon



J. Tallmon

Far left: Meriwether Lewis Dredge. Second from left: Country Handmades. Left: Group tour boarding the *Spirit of Brownville*. Above left and above: Old Time Autumn festivities. Above right: Main Street shopping.

RECREATION

Because of Brownville's status as a premier stop for natural attractions, it just makes sense that the town can offer ample opportunity for outdoor recreation. Enjoy the river, the hills, the trails, the picnic areas—experience for yourself.

Hunting and fishing

Have your rifles and reels ready! There are plenty of hunting and fishing opportunities in the Brownville area.

Aspinwall Bend WMA

Located on the Missouri and Little Nemaha Rivers, this is an outstanding spot to catch channel catfish and carp. You can also hunt for deer, dove, pheasant, quail, turkey, waterfowl, and more.

Brownville State Recreation Area

Just east of town, you can catch buffalo, carp, channel and flathead catfish, and shovelnose sturgeon. Boat ramp.

Indian Cave State Park

Stop at this magnificent recreation spot south of Brownville for buffalo, carp, and channel and flathead catfish fishing. Please call the park superintendent at 402-883-2575 about regulations and permits.

Peru Bottoms WMA

Hunt more than 850 acres for deer, dove, pheasant, waterfowl, quail, and rabbit.

Hiking and biking

If a long walk or bike ride sounds like just the right way to wind down after a long week, Brownville is the perfect place to start. The scenic trails here let you go as far as you want while immersing yourself in natural marvels at every turn.

Steamboat Trace Hike/Bike Trail

Hop on this historic trail at the Brownville Trailhead. From here, you can head north nearly 22 miles to Nebraska City. Along the way, you'll trace the trail of Lewis and Clark as you wind along the Missouri River and enjoy every gorgeous inch of this crushed limestone trail. Be sure to stop and see the intricate carvings along the limestone bluffs just south of Peru. www.nemahanrd.com/trail 402-335-3325

Whiskey Run Creek Trail

This shorter trail winds from the Steamboat Trace Trailhead through the arboretum to the picturesque Whiskey Run Creek Vineyard & Winery at the west end of Main Street.

Spirit of Brownville

Cruise the Missouri River in high style on the *Spirit of Brownville*. This old-fashioned riverboat is the perfect venue for weddings, parties, or business functions. Just call 402-825-6441 to arrange your private cruise. Or come to Brownville on Independence Day or Memorial Day weekend and enjoy a public cruise at 3 p.m. www.spiritofbrownville.com

Town parks

Brownville offers plenty of ways to enjoy the outdoors through its wonderful parks.

Brownville State Recreation Area

Located just east of town, this 22-acre area along the river is home to the *Meriwether Lewis* Dredge and Missouri River History Museum. Here you'll find a boat ramp, camping facilities, picnic shelters, water fountains, and modern restrooms.

Boettner Park

Situated at 2nd and Main Streets, this unique park will soon house the 1854 Didier Log Cabin. Come enjoy a picnic and view the Memorial Marker where Co. C 1st Reg. of Nebraska enlisted for the Civil War in 1861.

Capitol Square Park

Perched on the bluff overlooking Brownville, this site was originally reserved for a capitol building by the town's founders. Today, the park offers picnic shelters, grills, playground equipment, and an unbeatable view.

Indian Cave State Park

Comprised of nearly 3,500 acres, this magnificent state area is named for its massive sandstone cave. The walls of the cave are etched with ancient petroglyphs that date back thousands of years.

As the area's premier recreation destination, Indian Cave State Park offers visitors fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing, horseback riding, and 20 miles of hiking trails. The park is located 10 miles south of Brownville on Nebraska Highway 67 and five miles east on S-64E. www.outdoornebraska.org 402-883-2575



J. Nabb, Nebraska DED



R. Neibel, Nebraska DED

Brownville Community Endowment Fund

We have a vibrant community rich with history, art, culture, and natural beauty unlike any other community in the state.

Contact us to find out how you can ensure that it stays that way for generations to come.

800.794.3458 or
dennis@omahafoundation.org



N. Tallman

Above left: Steamboat Trace Hike/Bike Trail. Above right: Indian Cave State Park.
Above: Governor Robert W. Furnas Arboretum.

SHOPPING & DINING

THE MERCHANTS OF BROWNVILLE

Brownville is a village where visitors step back in time—back to when life was simpler and friendlier, where the rhythms of the river cadenced each day.

Browse the bookstores, art galleries, museums, period houses, shops and boutiques. Visit the winery and restaurant, or take in a show at the concert hall, night club or village theatre.

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Call toll free: (877)559-6005

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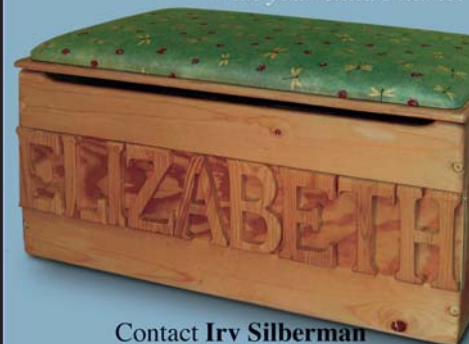
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620 N. 7th Street

The merchants of Brownville have so much to offer. With books and art, food and wine, brooms and antiques, there's no shortage of unique items, undiscovered bargains, and good times in the town's shops and eateries.

Shopping

Beehive Antiques

Located in a replica of the old Land Office on Main Street, this store offers unusual gifts and antiques. Open Saturday 1–5 p.m. and Sunday by chance.

Country Brooms

Main Street

Step back in time when you step into Merrill Johnson's unique shop. Here, he makes cornhusk brooms with a 125-year-old broom winder. Pick one up for your home. Open seasonally, Monday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. and Sunday, 12–4 p.m. 402-825-3041

Country Handmades

Outfitters Row, Main Street

Owners Sonia and Eldon Kistner present an eclectic array of country primitives, antiques, florals, and custom framing in this charming boutique. Open April 1–December 2, Thursday–Sunday, 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 402-274-7440

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Get haircuts for the whole family and enjoy the state-of-the-art Wolff sun bed. Open Monday and Wednesday–Friday, 8 a.m.–6 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m.–12 p.m. 402-825-3091

Mary's Emporium and the Yellow Chair

127–129 Main Street

A browser's dream stop! Sift through a seemingly endless abundance of antiques, costume jewelry, and collectibles. Open Tuesday–Sunday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. www.marysemporium.com 402-825-6637

Prairie Sage Publishing

P.O. Box 55

This locally owned business designs printed marketing materials, Web sites, and even books. www.prairiesagepublishing.com 402-825-3992

Sunset Hills

1030 Main Street

Enjoy the beauty of handcrafted red cedar furniture. Don Hoffmeyer creates beautiful rocking chairs, gliders, picnic tables, and more. 402-825-4651

Food and dining

Brownville Mills

116 Main Street

Shop here for a large selection of health foods, including stone-ground organically grown flours. Open Monday–Saturday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday, 1–5 p.m. www.brownvillémills-ne.com 402-825-4131

Cooking School of Brownville

140 South 4th Street

Sign up for a cooking class that focuses on classical technique. Call 402-825-6651 for an appointment.

The Lyceum Bookstore & Café

225 Main Street

You'll love the ever-changing menu at this Brownville institution. Drop in for lunch or dinner every day except Monday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m. See Web site for winter hours. www.brownvillelyceum.com 402-825-4231

T.J.'s Tavern

105 North 1st Street

Join the locals for a drink at this riverside watering hole. If you're coming over the weekend, don't forget your dancing shoes! Open Monday–Saturday, 3:30 p.m.–close. 402-825-9902

Whiskey Run Creek Vineyard & Winery

702 Main Street

Taste some of the state's most acclaimed wines, and be sure to take some home with you. The winery also has a full selection of wine-related gifts. Open Wednesday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday, 1–5 p.m. www.whiskeyrun creek.com 402-825-4601

For a list of art galleries, please refer to page 5.

For a list of bookstores, please refer to page 9.



Country Brooms

Stop by Merrill Johnson's Main Street Shop for a handcrafted cornhusk broom.

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402-825-3041

LODGING & CAMPING

The Brownville area has the perfect way to end your day. Choose any of these accommodations for a memorable overnight stay.

Bed and breakfasts

Cooper House

712 13th Street, Auburn

Owned by Pam Bennett, this Auburn B&B offers individual rooms with a private bath just minutes from Brownville. 402-274-9408

Pearson-Kelley Guesthouse

326 Main Street

This beautifully restored 2-bedroom house is located in the heart of Brownville within walking distance from most major attractions. Owners John and Mary Lauber have taken great care to create a relaxing hideaway. www.marysemporium.com/cottage.htm
402-825-6637

Hotels and motels

Arbor Manor Steakhouse & Motel

1617 Central Avenue, Auburn

Located in nearby Auburn, this motel features wireless Internet access, banquet facilities, and a restaurant. 402-274-3663

Auburn Inn

517 J Street, Auburn

Just a few minutes outside of Brownville, the Auburn Inn offers 30 rooms and suites, one with a full kitchen. 402-274-3143

The Floatel

Anchored at the fairgrounds just south of town, this unique floating B&B offers 18 yacht-style cabins and large gathering areas for weddings, family reunions, and conferences. Expected opening spring of 2009.
402-825-6441



Brownville State Recreation Area

Palmer House Motel

1918 J Street, Auburn

Enjoy accommodations in nearby Auburn within one of 20 deluxe rooms. 402-274-3193

Super 8 Motel

I-29 and U.S. Highway 136, Rock Port, MO

In nearby Rock Port, Missouri, this motel offers a continental breakfast, provides wireless Internet, and accepts pets. 660-744-5357

Campsites

Brownville State Recreation Area

Just south of town

Enjoy riverside camping with 14 hard-surfaced pads, available drinking water, and outhouses. 402-883-2575

The Fairgrounds

This RV park on the riverfront just south of Brownville includes water, electrical hook-ups, and dump station. 402-825-6441

City of Auburn RV Park

Choose from 12 pads (five are pull-through) with electricity and water hookups plus an on-site dump station. 402-274-8566 or 402-274-3420

Indian Cave State Park

Complete with 134 RV pads with 30-amp hookups, modern restrooms, laundry, showers, drinking water, and dump station, Indian Cave State Park is one of the finest camping facilities in the area. Primitive camping is permitted throughout the park, and Adirondack shelters are available for backpackers. www.outdoornebraska.org
402-883-2575

Longs Creek RV Park

Located near the Auburn Inn, this RV park offers 37 RV pads with full hookups. 402-274-8566

Rock Port KOA Campground

1409 U.S. Highway 136, Rock Port, MO

Just across the river in neighboring Missouri, this campground features 30/50-amp hookups for RVs. 660-744-5485

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WORSHIP

Brownville has two beautiful and historic churches within its city limits. All are welcome to join worship services on Sunday mornings.

Churches

Brownville Christian Church 6th and Main Streets

The Brownville Christian Church has a long and storied history in the village. In 1854, Elder Joel M. Wood arrived in Brownville and joined the town's founder, Richard Brown, in establishing the state's first church on January 5, 1855.

The first meetings were held near 1st and Main Streets in a log house, which was home to a variety of community functions. On September 30, 1859, the first church building was erected. After the building was destroyed by a tornado in 1866, the congregation rebuilt only to have the new church destroyed by fire in 1896.

On July 13, 1903, a new building was erected and is now used by the Brownville Village Theatre.

On April 9, 1967, the church dedicated its present building. The congregation assembles each Sunday at 11 a.m. for worship. Call 402-825-4491 for more information.

FUN FACT

Several of the most important cultural venues in Brownville are restored churches: the Flatwater Folk Art Museum, the Brownville Village Theatre, and the Brownville Concert Hall.

Brownville Methodist Church Water Street

Built in 1858, this is the oldest Methodist Church in Nebraska still holding regular services. The church was originally built as a Congregationalist church. Upon opening, the church building also served as the Brownville College, where students paid only \$5 per semester!

The Methodists purchased the historic building in 1861 and have built a thriving congregation which contributes to the rich life of Brownville.

Join in Sunday worship services at 10 a.m., or call 402-825-6681 with questions.



N. Tallmon



R. Critwood

Above right: Brownville Methodist Church. Above: Brownville Christian Church.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Whether you're just visiting Brownville or relocating here, there are many services available to you.

Local businesses and services

Auburn Public Schools

Featuring Calvert Elementary, Auburn Middle School, and Auburn High School, Auburn Public Schools proudly serves the children and students of the area. In 2006–2007, students from Auburn Public Schools performed well above state averages on reading and math tests administered by the state.

www.auburnpublicschools.org 402-274-4830

Brownville Post Office

217 Main Street

Stop and visit the ladies in the post office. They'll be happy to help you mail a package or purchase stamps. You'll also enjoy *The Arrival of the Packet Boat*, a spectacular mural by one of the state's most noted artists, Terence Duren. Open Monday–Friday, 7 a.m.–4:30 p.m. and Saturday, 7:30–9 a.m.

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FUN FACT

The first meeting of the Nebraska State Teachers' Association was held in Brownville in 1867.

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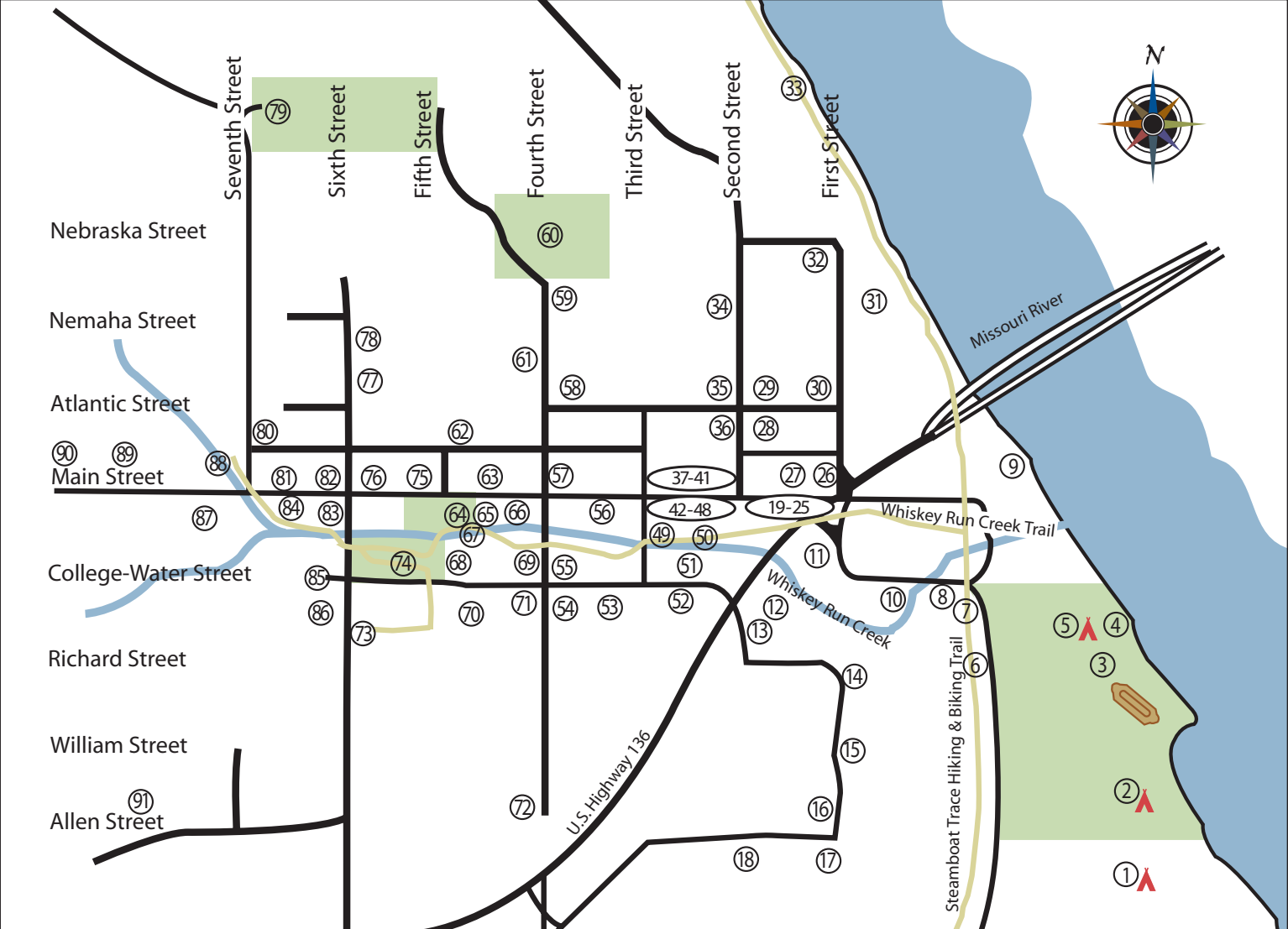
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BROWNVILLE MAP



Map courtesy of N. Tallmon

1. Smith's Missouri River Campground
2. Brownville State Recreation Area
3. Meriwether Lewis Missouri River History Museum
4. Spirit of Brownville Riverboat, in season charters
5. Brownville State Recreation Area
6. Brick Factory site
7. State Fair Grounds site, 1870-71
8. George W. Neely House, 1867 (George W. Neubert Studio)
9. Old Stone Wharf site, Thousands of emigrants disembarked from steamboats here to head west.
10. Shadley House
11. Brownville Depot & Railroad History Museum
12. Robert C. Deuser House, 1858 (Merrywood on the Missouri)
13. The Beehive-Deuser House, 1863
14. Timothy McLaughlin House, 1859
15. Site of old Native American Trail
16. Theodore Hill House, 1857
17. Native American Burial Grounds on bluff South of this location
18. Eaton's View
19. Land Office Reproduction, Daniel Freeman filed first homestead here in 1863. (Beehive Antiques)
20. Mary's Emporium & The Yellow Chair
21. Chaney Gallery
22. Country Handmades
23. Handmade Modern
24. Gallery 119
25. A Novel Idea Bookstore-Chapter Two
26. TJ's Tavern
27. Lone Tree Saloon, 1860 (Brownville Mill)
28. Muir House, 1868
29. Brownville Concert Hall (Peru Community Church building & site of Episcopal Church)
30. Congregational Church site
31. Anthony P. Cogswell House, 1868
32. Stevens' House, 1862
33. River View, site of Lewis & Clark encampment on July 5, 1804
34. S. W. Abbott House
35. Baptist Church site
36. Presbyterian Church site
37. Lyceum Bookstore, Gallery & Cafe
38. Village Bookstore
39. Dr. Spurgin's Dental Office Museum
40. Country Brooms
41. Masonic Building (Tom Palmerton Studio & Gallery)
42. Brown-Carson House, 1880
43. Town Hall & Opera House
44. Wheel Museum
45. Brownville Post Office (Packet Boat Mural by Terance Duren)
46. Brownville Historical Society Office
47. Boettner Park
48. Public Restrooms
49. Carson Carriage House
50. Brice Memorial Bridge (in memory of Virginia Adcock Brice)
51. Village Repertory Theatre (former Brownville Christian Church)
52. Morrison-McNaughton House, 1856 (Brownville's oldest house)
53. Brownville School, 1939 (The Antiquarium Bookstore)
54. Site of Brownville College & Nebraska State Teachers Association, 1867
55. Cyrus Pollack House, 1871 (Cooking School of Brownville & Gallery of American Folk Art)
56. Oscar Lake House, 1857 (October House)
57. Pearson-Kelly Guesthouse
58. John L. Colhapp House, 1869
59. Catholic Church site
60. Capitol Square Park, (proposed site for State Capitol)
61. African ME Church site
62. Middleton House, 1861
63. Captain Bailey Museum, 1877
64. Schoolhouse Gallery & Nature Center and Governor Furnas Arboretum
65. Oscar Lake House, 1859
66. Worthing-Baker House, 1863
67. Lorraine LeMar Rohman Memorial Bridge
68. Thompson-Lowman House
69. Abbot G. Gates House, 1859 (First brick house in Nebraska Territory)
70. Methodist Church, 1857
71. Drover's House
72. Tipton House, 1869
73. Governor Furnas House, 1869
74. Governor Furnas Memorial statue
75. M. A. Hundley House
76. Christian Church
77. Bratton-Minick House, 1863
78. Hoover-Weimer-Pebbley House, 1870
79. Walnut Grove Cemetery
80. First Nace House
81. Lewis-Wibley House, 1870
82. Flatwater Folk Art Museum, 1884 (former Howe Church)
83. Old Brownville Marble Works, 1868
84. Lowman House
85. Texas Trail, cattle trail from Texas to Ft. Kearny
86. Second Nace House, 1884
87. Wheeler-Drury House, 1867
88. Whiskey Run Creek Winery & Vineyard
89. Pierce House, 1874
90. Sunset Hills Trading Company
91. Mother Mc's Cottage, 1900

Questions or comments? Contact Nora Tallmon at nora.tallmon@gmail.com or (402)825-3992

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